
Perspectives on Ukraine

The event is part of the two-part series "Perspectives on Ukraine", organised by the research network of leading Central European universities CENTRAL, and its early-career program, the CENTRAL Leadership Program.

Background of the preparation of the series

In 2026, two alumni – 1 from the Humboldt University, one from Andrassy who became friends during the program, applied for the annual HU grant, offering a 2000 EUR Alumni grant for an event focusing on Central European current events and challenges.

Outcome was a Budapest-Berlin 2 part event series on Ukraine in Senate Hall at the Humboldt University and Mirror Hall at the Andrassy University.

Part 1 / Perspectives on Ukraine: Diplomatic Approaches for Lasting Peace? Andrassy University (Budapest) / 29 April 2026 / 18:30-20:00

Main ideas of the discussion:

Over 1 500 days of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine – and despite Trump's promise to end the war in 24 hours, no end is in sight even after the Easter ceasefire. How likely is peace at the negotiating table? What tactics do Russian diplomats use, and how should we interpret them? And overall: How can the European Union, the United States and our civil society better understand Russian behaviour to build a resilient post-war security architecture?

Key note by Iuliia Osmolovska, Head of GLOBSEC Kyiv Office. She is working for the Office of the President of Ukraine and assessing reforms in the field of international economic and European integration, as well as with the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, channeling the communication between the government and expert community/civil society with regard to reforms in Ukraine.

Followed by a discussion with Marharyta Blyzniuk, CLP Alumni from the University of Warsaw. The discussion was about the European support for Ukraine – especially in the light of Hungary's parliament elections – and its implications for the Ukrainian civil society, viewed personally by both speakers.

Moderation by Joel Keller, CLP Alumni from the Andrassy University.

Supported by the Ambassador Robert Klinke and the team at the Andrassy University Budapest.



Part 2 / Perspectives on Ukraine: Ukraine in the Fifth Year of the War - The Impact on a Society Under Constant Stress
Humboldt University (Berlin) / 13 May 2026 / 17:00 - 19:00

The second event focuses on aspects of civil society such as trauma, strategies against disinformation, exhaustion and the question of how societies remain capable of action under prolonged pressure.

Speakers:

S.E. Oleksii Makeiev	Ukrainian Ambassador (or representative)
Prof. Dr. Julia von Blumenthal	president of Humboldt University
Prof. Dr. med. Olaf Schulte-Herbrüggen	Guest Professor at the Faculty of Life Sciences, Institute of Clinical Psychology at Humboldt-University
Karl-Georg Wellmann	former member of parliament (CDU)
Dr. Liudmyla Kvirenko	Ukrainian NGO representative and expert on media and disinformation campaigns
Simon Schlegel	think tank Libmod
Prof. Dr. Heinrich Kreft	holds the Chair for Diplomacy at Andrassy University Budapest and is the Director of its International Relations and European Studies program
Jan-Niklas Epler	HU student and CLP Alumni

